

JULY • 1995

OPEN ARMS

VOL. 7 NUMBER 7

..... MICHIANA'S LESBIAN NEWSLETTER

LAVENDER RHYTHM SUMMER DANCE

If The Lavender Rhythm Dance Committee has set attendance as the yardstick for their success, then they must feel good about what they are doing. More and more wimin are showing up. So many new wimin. It's uplifting to see so many community wimin coming together. And looking so good!!!

My partner and I came in a little late and could hardly find a place to park. As we strolled to the door, we were greeted by beautiful wimin, wimin of action and daring, wimin with injuries sustained from bedroom acrobatics. Moving inside, wimin and music filled the room. Though I had not been feeling well earlier, womon energy was at work and I began to feel more and more energized.

It was good to see old friends. Four cheers to Lisa, beaming with joy, vitality, and adventure, finding herself and in so doing helping us come closer to realizing our own powers.

As I watched an old friend hold up a corner wall, shy and searching, I was aware of her great potential and wisdom, even though she has not given herself permission to see, believe in, and trust herself. It will come when she's ready. I found it to be self-empowering for me, when later that evening I spoke to another feminine soul who gave support to my observation.

Speaking of power, what about that door-lift-thing by Nancy. That was pretty empowering too. She got our vote to lift that

door and as she said, "It's as good as done." Indeed it was! She made me feel that she could do anything. If we want a thing done...it's as good as done. I can't help wonder how true this may be in all actuality. We have not given belief and reality to our true power...as if it is lying somewhere waiting. I find some, here and there, who are blazing the frontier of womon glory.

Wow! I watched some great dancers that evening. Paula, I saw those smooth dance moves you were doing. Looking so good! Linda, I can't believe you would deny us your strong, sensuous style of dance for as long as you have. I thought you were exciting. Sherrill, you're a treat to look at, on the dance floor as well as off. And, Viv, thanks for being a special fun friend. You made the dance a joy for me, as you always have. You gave the dance event a gift of your presence.

These are a few highlights from my dance event experience. If anyone reading this article would like to write your reaction and experience to a community event, you are always invited to do so. Write it out and send it to *Open Arms*.

It has been brought to the attention of the *Open Arms* staff that Lavender Rhythm will be looking for a new location to hold the dances after their next dance in August. If anyone knows of an available, suitable place, please let the Dance Committee know. You may call 616-684-7362.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

VIDEO NIGHT

Canceled for the summer due to the softball season.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP

Every Tuesday
 * MEETS AT A NEW LOCATION *
 7-9 p.m.
 For info, write:
 LSG
 P.O. Box 1612
 Mishawaka, IN 46544

3RD FRIDAY OUT

Imperial Palace
 Call Jackie for info
 Saturday, July 15th
 7:00 p.m.
 For reservations, call Jackie by Wednesday,
 July 12th, at (219)-291-5837

Canoe Trip

Saturday, July 22
 Call Marcia at 271-0338 for info.

EVENTS COORDINATORS

Third Friday Out: Jackie (219)-291-5837
 Video Night: Gloria & Julie (616)-695-7311
 Game Night:
 Sunday Brunch: Kaye & Marcia (219)-271-0338

Game Night/Potluck

If you would like to have a game night/potluck at your home, call Barb at 287-4548 on weekends.

OPEN ARMS STAFF

Sheree (616)-684-6365
 Kaye & Marcia (219)-271-0338
 Advertising: Kaye & Marcia
 Subscriptions: Kaye & Marcia

EDITORIAL POLICY

We may edit any article submitted for length or content. We ask that all articles submitted be signed and typed, but will respect the wishes of the author by not printing her name if so requested.

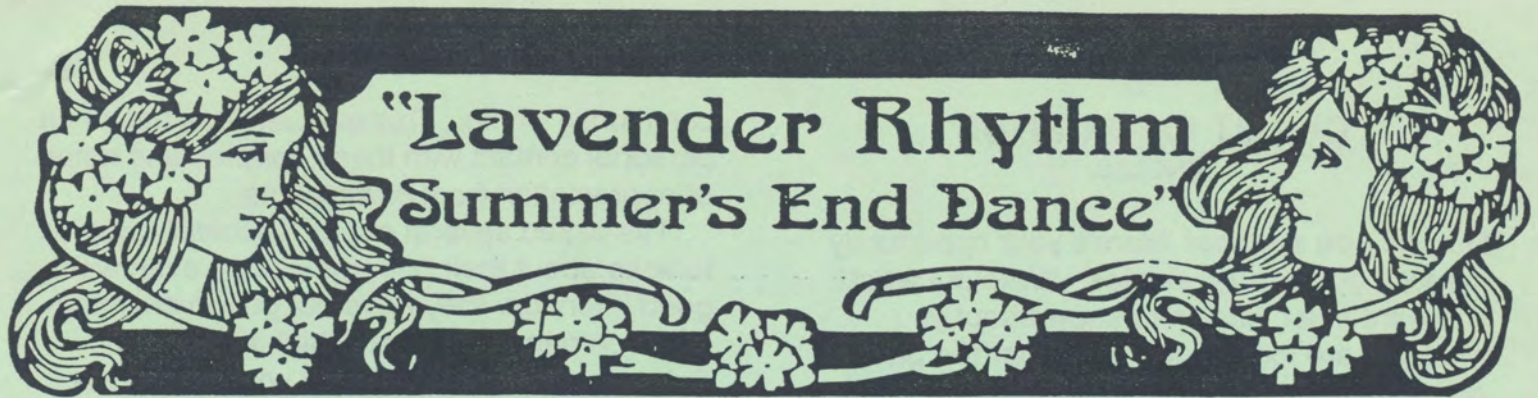
PLEASE TYPE SUBMISSIONS IF POSSIBLE

If it is possible for you to type your submissions on a letter quality typewriter or printer, please do so using a 55 space line. This will make layout much easier. Thanks.

Whistle Stop Cafe Schedule

Date	Team	Time	Park
Apr 28	Peddler's Pub	6:30	Boehm
May 5	DRC Corp	7:30	Boland
May 12	Ireland Rd Church	6:30	Boland
May 19	Bonnie Jewel Agency	7:30	Boehm
Jun 2	Martin's	6:30	Boland
Jun 9	Chevron Cafe	6:30	Boehm
Jun 16	Dee Ken's	7:30	Boehm
Jun 23	Peddler's Pub	7:30	Boland
Jun 30	DRC Corp	6:30	Boland
Jul 7	Ireland Rd Church	7:30	Boland
Jul 14	Bonnie Jewel Agency	7:30	Boehm
Jul 21	Martin's	7:30	Boehm
Jul 28	Chevron Cafe	6:30	Boland
Aug 4	Dee Ken's	6:30	Boehm





"Lavender Rhythm Summer's End Dance"

Special Guest: Pandora's

Place: Milton Township Community Hall,
Niles, MI

Date: August 26, 1995

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Ind. Time
8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Mich. Time

Admission: \$5.00 at the Door ONLY

(no advance tickets)



*A Wimmin's
Event*

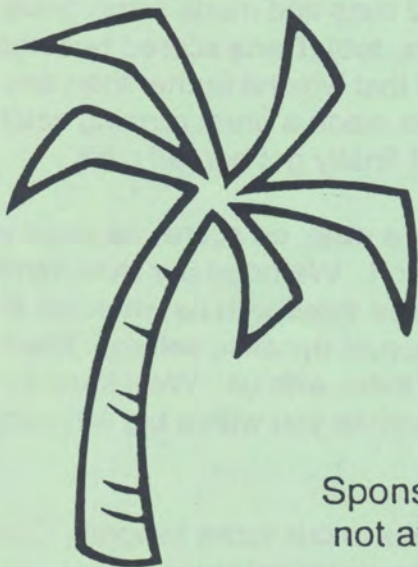
**Music by
DJ**

**Refreshments
Door Prizes**

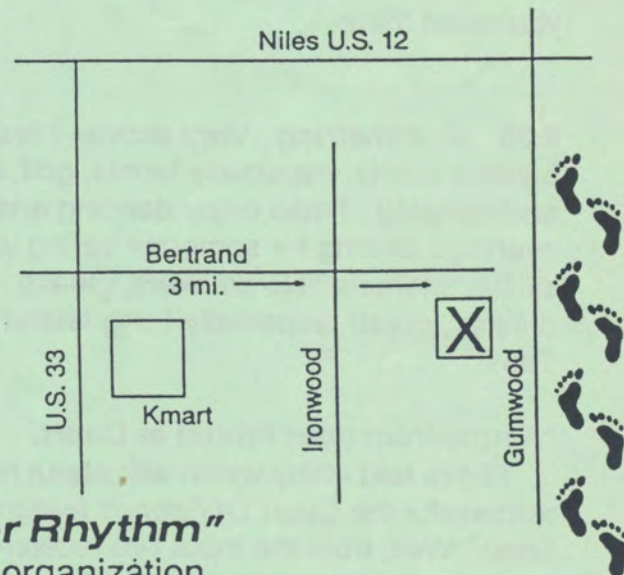


Volunteers Needed

Call 616 - 684 - 7362 for information.



BYOB



Sponsored by the "**Lavender Rhythm**"
not affiliated with any group or organization.

Disclaimer: Lavender Rhythm or Milton Township are Not Responsible for Alcohol Related Incidents.

COURT OF FRIENDS

SINGLES

O.K. all you singles! Here's your opportunity to reach out to other singles. Write out what you want other singles to know about you, what you are looking for in another (be brief), and send to:

The Court of Friends

P.O.Box 1281

Niles, MI 49120

(Be sure to include your address.)

Your identity will be assigned an ID number. Your info and ID number will be published in OPEN ARMS. (It would be helpful if you would send your info early in the month so that it can be published in the next month's issue.) Also, O.A. reserves the right to edit, if necessary, for publication.

Those wishing to respond to an ID Single may do so by writing whatever you wish, putting it in a stamped, sealed envelope with the intended ID number on the front (in pencil). Place your message in another stamped envelope and mail to the above P.O.Box.

Upon receiving your message, the ID number will be replaced with the corresponding name and address and mailed. Then you're on your own. **COME ON SINGLES!** *Someone special wants to know you're out there!*

36 40 something. Very active. I like outdoor sports, especially tennis, golf, biking and camping. I also enjoy dancing and quiet evenings looking for someone caring with similar interests. No smokers, please. Social drinker, great!, especially Long Island Ice Teas!

***A note from your Friend at Court.**

I have had many wimin ask about how successful the *Court Of Friends* feature has been. Well, from the input I've received so far, I can say that it has been very successful and instrumental in bringing together our

community wimin. This evaluation is based on personal contact with these couples and notes of appreciation from participants.

I've asked several of our "success" couples to write about their happiness, but, even with good intention, they have not gotten anything down on paper yet. Let's think about this, **Open Arms** readers. When you were in the early whirlwind of a new relationship, did you want to spend time writing? This is a time of action!!!

Keeping this consideration in mind, Dear Reader, just know that several couples have been created through the *Hallowed Halls of the Court of Friends*.

WHISTLE STOP CAFE

Game # 5..a cancellation due to rain.

Game # 6..vs Chevron Cafe ..a loss, 2 to 10. Unfortunately, Chevron was hitting well. Our only runs came in the 4th inning by Woody and Connie. Dena had a couple nice hits. Kelly also had 2 hits and a terrific catch and out on a throw from leftfield. Marlene made two beautiful catches out in leftfield, giving revived hope for a change of pattern. Leatrice maintained solid defense.

Game #7..vs Dee Kens ..a loss, 7 to 10
If only we could have gotten going sooner...Woody was excellent at pitching, had 3 hits, scored 2 runs and made some great defensive plays, too! Dena scored twice and hit a home run that was hit farther than any I've ever seen. Kim made a great running catch in centerfield and finally got herself a hit.

Though we were weak on score, we were very strong on support. We need our fans, family and friends, to be there with us when we are not being our usual dynamic selves. Thanks for hanging in there with us. We'll keep trying and maybe surprise you with a big win very soon.

A special thanks to our score keepers, Cheryl and Marcia....true champions!

OPEN ARMS SUPPORTERS



ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising in Open Arms runs on a calendar year basis and our advertisers will be receiving renewal notices soon. Since our rates are so low (\$10 per year, or more if you can afford it, for a business-card size ad) we don't pro-rate the fee on a less than 6 month basis. If you submit your ad between January and June, the full year rate will apply; between July and December the rate will be half the yearly rate.

Premier Properties *Real Estate Services*



P.O. Box 1173
Goshen, IN 46527

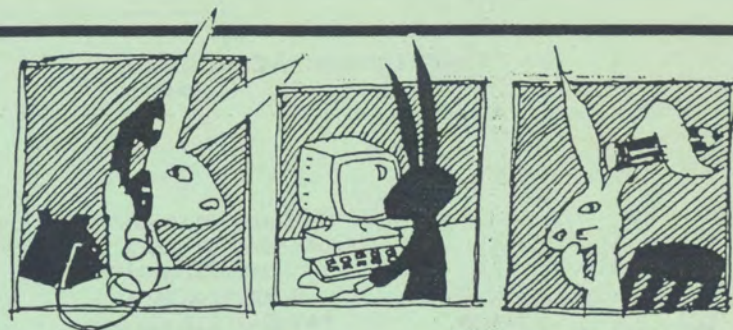
"Talk to Tina"

Tina Weldy, GRI, CRS
Broker/Owner

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Residence: (219) 534-TINA



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Call Susan for weekend, mid-week, weekly visits at (616) 857-2586.

Marge & Joanne's

BED & BREAKFAST

•accommodations for women•

Duneswood

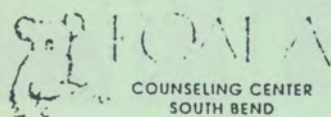


P.O. Box 457
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

616-334-3346

OPEN ARMS SUPPORTERS

Cathy Lambert, ACSW, CCSW
Director



125 South Hill Street
South Bend, IN 46617
(219) 232-4191
1-800-92-KOALA
FAX (219) 232-4561



*New Opening in June...a new women's guesthouse!
Call about special pre-opening rates in May.
Book now for Holland, Michigan Tulip Festival, May 4th-14th.*

Saugatuck on the river...

DEERPATH LODGE

an enchanting retreat



Deerpath Lodge sits atop a dune overlooking the Kalamazoo River. Surrounding evergreens, oaks, and an extensive wildflower garden provide a rustic charm. The river and 45 acres seclude our private retreat from public access. Saugatuck, the infamous art colony, and mecca of innovative shops and restaurants is just five minutes by car, longer by boat. We offer three spacious guest rooms, each with private bath, one with kitchenette. A wholesome breakfast is provided.

Guest Rooms For Women

For Reservations & Information:
P.O. Box 849 Saugatuck, Michigan 49453
1-616-857-DEER

ANNE V. WHITCOMB MA, CSW

Counseling for Growth & Health



(219) 674-0168



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Sandy Berta - Owner

HUGGING

Hugging is healthy: It helps the body's immunity system, keeps you healthier, lifts depression, reduces stress, and induces sleep. It's rejuvenating, invigorating, has no unpleasant side effects, and hugging is no less than a miracle drug.

Hugging is all natural, organic, and naturally sweet. It contains no pesticides, no preservatives, no artificial ingredients, and is 100% wholesome.

Hugging is practically perfect: There are no moving parts, no batteries, no periodic checkups, no monthly payments, and no insurance requirements. It's non-fattening, non-taxable, non-polluting, and of course, fully refundable.

"from P-FLAG"

Consumer Information from TLC (The Lesbian
Committee of NOW)
June 1995

Each month The Lesbian Committee intends to survey 8-10 similar businesses or services in your area in order to identify those businesses that are lesbian/gay friendly. We will then make the list of businesses who responded within the deadline, and those who did not, available to the local lesbian/gay newsletters. In addition, TLC will compile an annual directory of lesbian/gay-friendly businesses and distribute it to local lesbian/gay organizations.

"You gotta sink your teeth into it..." If you or your beloved are searching for dental care, you might consider the information we've collected. This month we polled female dentists regarding their views about lesbians and gay men as employees and clients. We asked the usual questions and sent a SASE for easy reply.

1. Do you welcome lesbians and gays at your business?
2. Would you hire a person who was qualified for an open position if you knew they were lesbian or gay?
3. If it came to your attention that one of your patients was lesbian or gay, would you treat them the same?

Yes to all three: Becky Szabo (Szabo Family Dentistry)
Nora Harmsen (Mishawaka)
Yes, and... Bonni Boone (Michiana Dental Center)-
"Our office does not discriminate against people based on their sexual preference. We currently have gay and lesbian patients in our practice. We welcome all people into our practice until they give us reason not to, e.g. not paying billing, missing appointments."

No Reply: Lyn Albrecht (South Bend)
Jasine Gabriel-Schlitt (Niles)
Julie Gaydos (The Dental Center)
Cynthia Lindborg (South Bend)
Kathy March (Niles)
Jane Smydo
Amy Sonneborn-Turnock (Mishawaka)
Deborah Fleming
Lynn Thomas
Janice Wenger (Elkhart)
Ellen Wyant



UP AND COMING EVENTS

- Jun.30-Jul. 9** Dos Fallopi at the Phoenix Theatre in Indianapolis, 317-635-PLAY
Jul. 22 Jesse Hawk Oakenstar at Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, Chicago, 312-477-8362
Jul. 29 Alix Dobkin, Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, Chicago, 312-477-8362
Aug. 7-13 Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, Hart, MI
Sept. 9 Ohio Lesbian Festival, 614-267-3953, Columbus, OH
Sept. 8-10 Sisterspace Pocono Weekend, 215-476-8856, Pennsylvania.
Sept. 23 Midwest Womyn's Autumnfest, 23 mi. SE of Rockford, IL and 70 mi. west of Chicago (Kingston, IL) 708-786-5377
Nov. 3-12 The 15th Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival, 312-384-5533

Olivia Cruises

- Sept. 17-24** French/Italian riveria
Oct. 5-12 Sonora Bay
Nov. 4-11 Ixtapa
Apr. 8-15, 1996 Grand Caribbean
Jun. 26-Jul. 3, 1996 Alaska
1-800-631-6277

BOOK REVIEW

I had the pleasure of being introduced to a book written by Katherine V. Forrest. Ladies, Let me tell you that I couldn't put this book down. It stirred the passion and fire that I remember sharing with my lover when we first met. I relived the feelings and thoughts these ladies go through in this book, because all of us have experienced them at some time in our lives.

If you want to feel the excitement of the chase between two hearts, the wanting to experience that closeness, the touching, and the ultimate climax that two bodies share, the desire and burning from deep within our souls, hot with passion and a thirst for that sweetness, that will only drive us to want more, read this novel!

Well, all I can say, is if you like romance, you will like "Curious Wine." It would be a shame to miss out on something so exciting! I would like to send a special thanks out to my Chi-Town friend who introduced me to "Curious Wine."

Review by "S"



July 1995

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																			
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2	3	4 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	5 NOW Meeting St. Joe Library 7:00 p.m.	6	7 Softball Boland Park 7:30 p.m.	8																																																																																			
9	10	11 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	12 Reservations due for Third Sat. Out	13	14 Softball Boehm Park 7:30 p.m.	15 Third Saturday Out																																																																																			
16 Open Arms Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	17	18 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	19	20	21 Softball Boehm Park 7:30 p.m.	22 Canoe Trip Call 271-0338 for info																																																																																			
23 PFLAG Meeting 2:00-4:00 p.m.	24	25 Support Group 7:00 p.m.	26	27	28 Softball Boland Park at 6:30 p.m.	29																																																																																			
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MISSION STATEMENT

Open Arms exists to disseminate diverse information of interest to the Michiana lesbian community.

OPEN ARMS DEADLINE/MEETING

The deadline for submissions for the August *Open Arms* is July 10th. Submissions can be mailed to Open Arms, P. O. Box 845, Mishawaka, IN 46546 or given to Sheree or Kaye. Submissions received after July 10th may not be published in the August newsletter.

Newsletter meeting: Sunday, July 16th, 1995, at 6:30p.m. Call 271-0338 for directions.